

A sound formalization of void safety

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2021-12-02

expr.method (args);

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```

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tmp = **expr**;

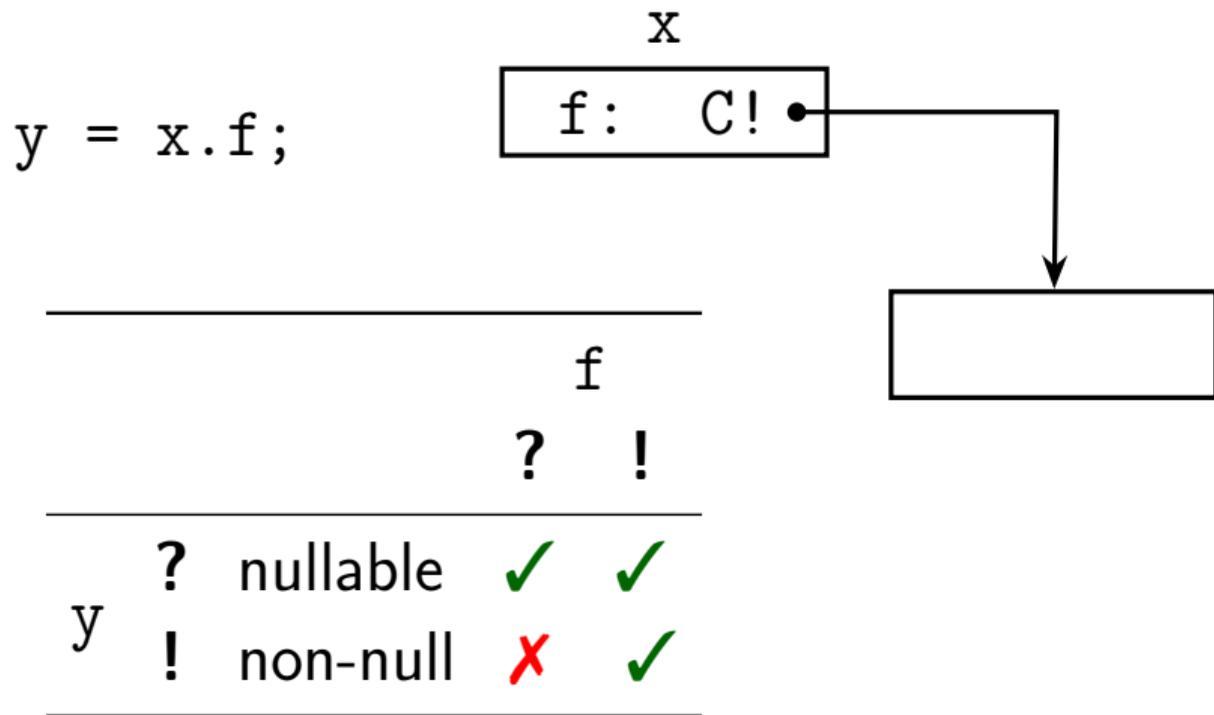
if (*tmp* == *null*)

throw new NullPointerException ();

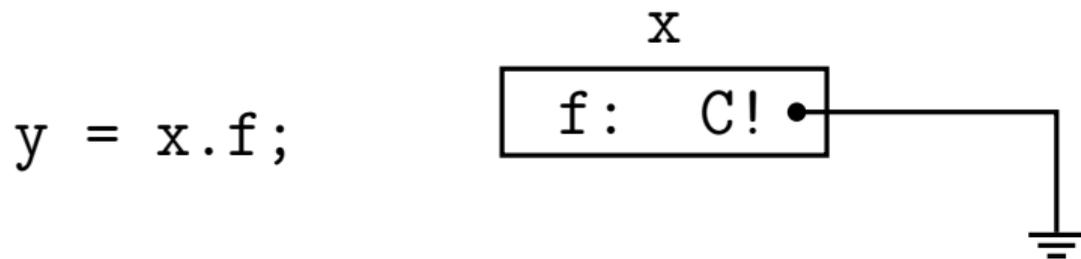
else

tmp.**method(args);**

Assignment rule



Assignment rule

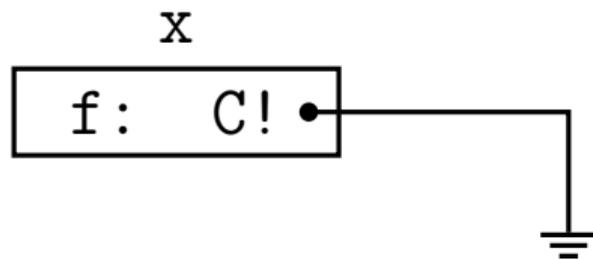


		f	
		?	!
y	?	nullable	✓
	!	non-null	✗

Breaks for new objects!

Object creation

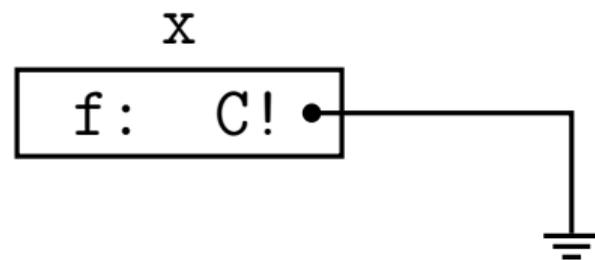
		f	
x.f		!	?
	1 committed	1!	1?
x	0 free	◇?	◇?
	◇ unclassified	◇?	◇?



Alexander J. Summers, Peter Müller. Freedom Before Commitment. OOPSLA'11

Object creation

	$x.f$	f	
		!	?
	1 committed	1!	1?
x	0 free	◇?	◇?
	◇ unclassified	◇?	◇?



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Object creation

		f		y			
x.f		!	?	x.f = y;	1	0	◇
	1 committed	1!	1?	1	✓	✗	✗
x	0 free	◇?	◇?	0	✓	✓	✓
	◇ unclassified	◇?	◇?	◇	✓	✗	✗

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Proof on paper

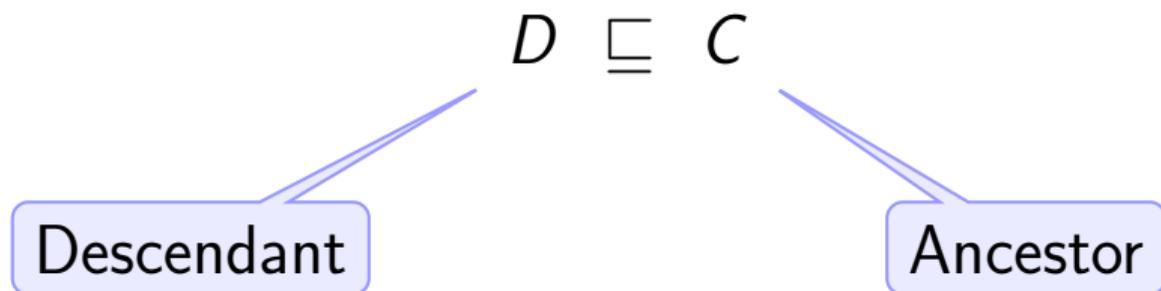
	Original	Verified
Premises	$D \sqsubseteq C$	$C \sqsubseteq D$
	—	$m \in \text{methods } D$
	$m\text{Sig } (D, m) = (\gamma, S_i, S, S_j)$	
	$m\text{Sig } (C, m) = (\gamma', S_i', S', S_l)$	
	—	$\vdash_{mS} (\gamma, S_i, S, S_j)$
	—	$\vdash_{mS} (\gamma', S_i', S', S_l)$
	$\text{instance } \vartheta S (D^{\gamma!} \cdot S_i)$	
Conclusions	$\vartheta' \in \text{instances } S' (C^{\gamma'}! \cdot S_i')$	
	$\vartheta' \gamma' = \vartheta \gamma'$	
	$\vartheta' S_i' = \vartheta S_i'$	
	$\vartheta' S' = \vartheta S$	$\vartheta' S' \sqsubseteq \vartheta S$
	$\vartheta' S_l = \vartheta S_l$	

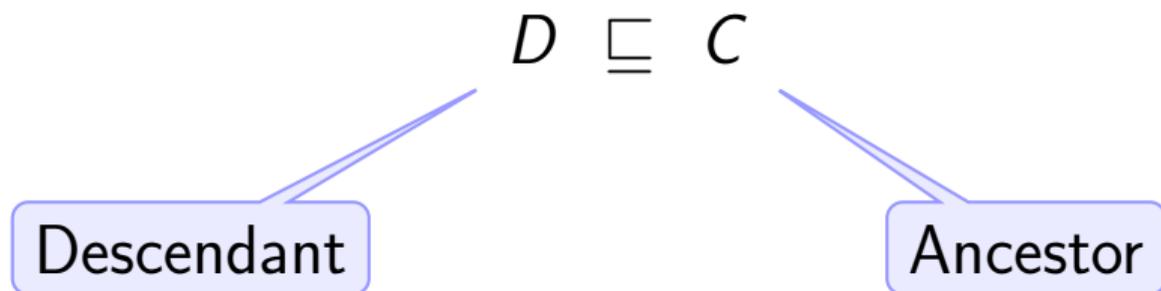
Type system

Heap properties

Semantics

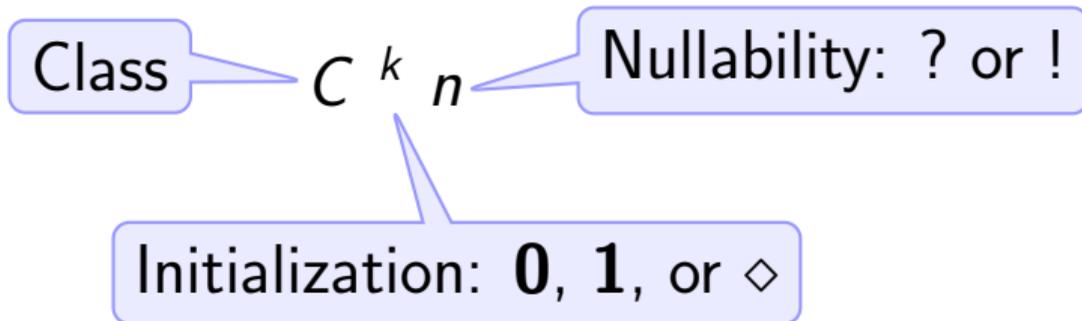
Proof





methods $C \subseteq \text{methods } D$

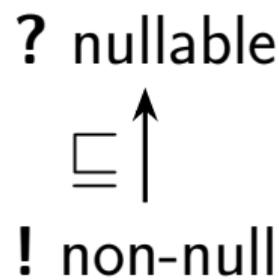
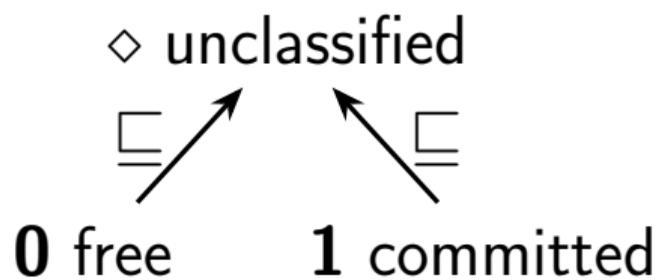
fields $C \subseteq \text{fields } D$



$C^k n$ 

$$C^k n$$

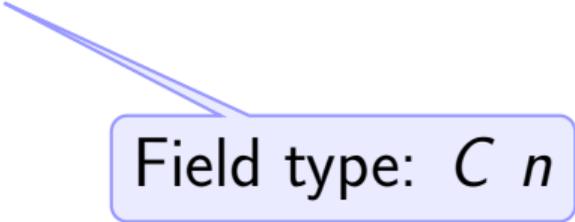

$$C_1^{k_1} n_1 \sqsubseteq C_2^{k_2} n_2 \equiv C_1 \sqsubseteq C_2 \wedge k_1 \sqsubseteq k_2 \wedge n_1 \sqsubseteq n_2$$

Type: $C^k n$ Field type: $C n$ 

$$C_1^{k_1} n_1 \sqsubseteq C_2^{k_2} n_2 \equiv C_1 \sqsubseteq C_2 \wedge k_1 \sqsubseteq k_2 \wedge n_1 \sqsubseteq n_2$$

Signatures

$$fType (C, f) = T$$



Field type: $C\ n$

Signatures

$fType (C, f) = T$

$mSig (C, m) = (\gamma, X_i, S, Y_j)$

Arguments

Local variables

Target initialization

Result

Signatures

$$fType (C, f) = T$$

$$mSig (C, m) = (\gamma, X_i, S, Y_j)$$

$$cSig C = (X_i, Y_j)$$

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$$mSig (C, m) = (\gamma, X_i, S, Y_j)$$

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nonvariant	T
contravariant	γ, X_i
covariant	S

Expressions and statements

$$e ::= x \mid x.f \mid \text{null}$$

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$s ::=$

- $x := e$
- $| z.f := y$
- $| x := y.m (z_i)$
- $| x := \text{new } C (z_i)$
- $| x := (t) y$
- $| s_1; s_2$

Expressions and statements

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 $|$
 $x := (t) y$
 $|$
 $s_1; s_2$

$\vdash_s s$

Well-formed $\approx x \neq \text{this}$

Well-formed signatures

$$\begin{aligned} \vdash_{mS} (\gamma, X_i, S, Y_j) &\equiv \text{vars } (S \cdot Y_j) \subseteq \text{var } \gamma \cup \text{vars } X_i \\ &\wedge \text{this} \notin X_i \cup Y_j \\ &\wedge \text{res} \notin X_i \cup Y_j \\ &\wedge \text{distinct } (X_i @ Y_j) \end{aligned}$$

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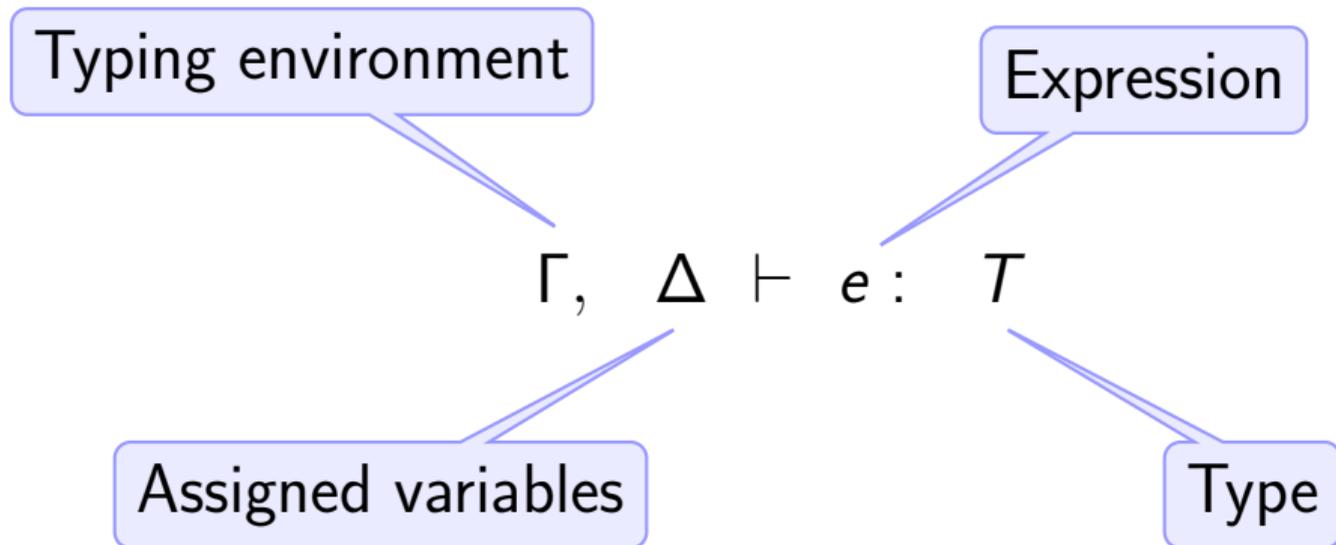
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$$\vdash_{cS} (X_i, Y_j) \equiv \dots$$



Expression typing

$$\frac{x \in \text{dom } \Gamma \quad \text{nullable}(\Gamma x) \vee x \in \Delta}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x : \Gamma x} \text{T}_{\text{VAR}}$$

$$\frac{\text{nullable } T}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash \text{null} : T} \text{T}_{\text{NULL}}$$

	x.f		f	
			!	?
	1	committed	1!	1?
x	0	free	$\diamond?$	$\diamond?$
	\diamond	unclassified	$\diamond?$	$\diamond?$

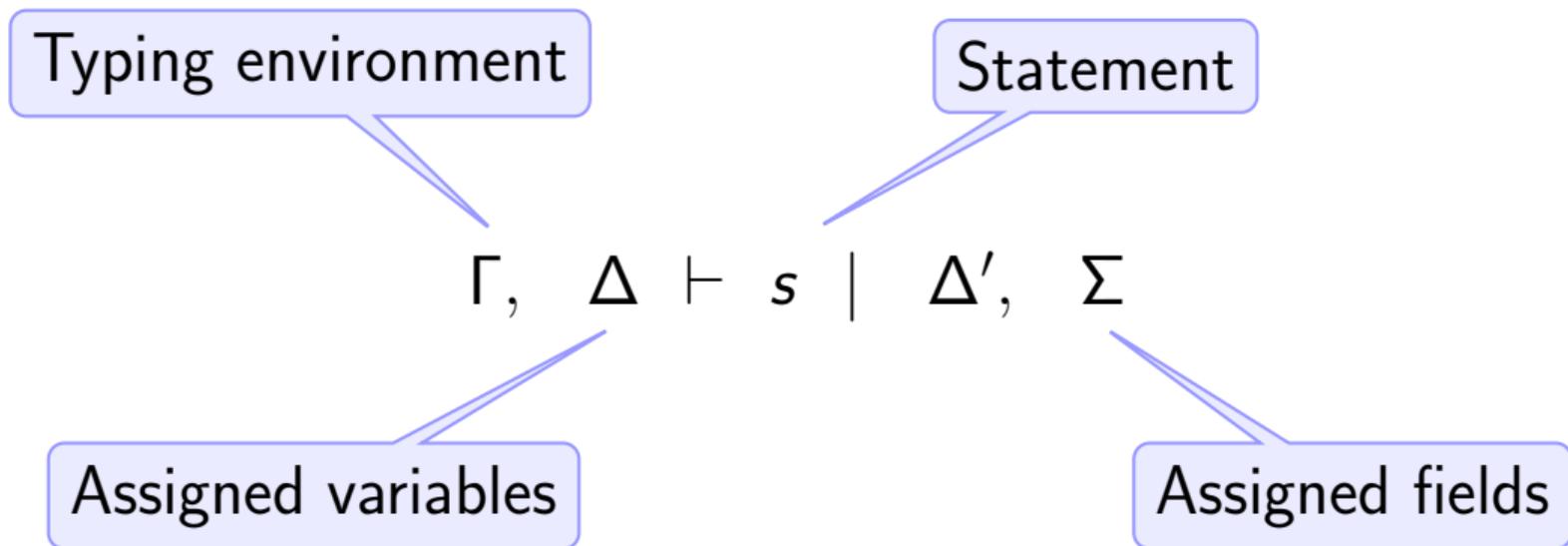
$$\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x : C^{k_1}!$$

$$f\text{Type}(C, f) = Dn_1 \quad k_2 = (\text{if } k_1 = \mathbf{1} \text{ then } \mathbf{1} \text{ else } \diamond)$$

$$n_2 = (\text{if } n_1 = ! \wedge k_1 = \mathbf{1} \text{ then } ! \text{ else } ?)$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x : C^{k_1}! \quad f\text{Type}(C, f) = Dn_1 \quad k_2 = (\text{if } k_1 = \mathbf{1} \text{ then } \mathbf{1} \text{ else } \diamond) \quad n_2 = (\text{if } n_1 = ! \wedge k_1 = \mathbf{1} \text{ then } ! \text{ else } ?)}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x.f : D^{k_2}n_2} \text{T}_{\text{FLD}}$$

Statement typing



Statement typing

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash e : T \quad T \sqsubseteq \Gamma x}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x := e \mid \Delta \cup \{x\}, \emptyset} \text{T}_{\text{VARASS}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash y : C^{k_1 n_1} \quad t = Dn_2 \quad D^{k_2 n_2} \sqsubseteq \Gamma x}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x := (t) y \mid \Delta \cup \{x\}, \emptyset} \text{T}_{\text{CAST}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash s_1 \mid \Delta_1, \Sigma_1 \quad \Gamma, \Delta_1 \vdash s_2 \mid \Delta_2, \Sigma_2}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash s_1; s_2 \mid \Delta_2, \Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2} \text{T}_{\text{SEQ}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x : C^{k_1!} \quad fType(C, f) = Dn \quad \Gamma, \Delta \vdash y : T \quad T \sqsubseteq D^{k_2 n} \quad k_1 = \mathbf{0} \vee k_2 = \mathbf{1} \quad \Sigma = (\text{if } x = \text{this then } \{f\} \text{ else } \emptyset)}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x.f := y \mid \Delta, \Sigma} \text{T}_{\text{FLDASS}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash y : C^{k!} \quad mSig(C, m) = (\gamma, X_i, S, Y_j) \quad \vartheta \in \text{instances } S(C^{\gamma!} \cdot X_i) \quad \Gamma, \Delta \vdash z_i : T_i \quad T_i \sqsubseteq \vartheta X_i \quad \vartheta S \sqsubseteq \Gamma x \quad k \sqsubseteq \vartheta \gamma}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x := y.m(z_i) \mid \Delta \cup \{x\}, \emptyset} \text{T}_{\text{CALL}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash z_i : T_i \quad T_i \sqsubseteq \vartheta X_i \quad k = (\text{if committed}^* T_i \text{ then } \mathbf{1} \text{ else } \mathbf{0}) \quad C^{k!} \sqsubseteq \Gamma x \quad cSig C = (X_i, Y_j) \quad \vartheta \in \text{instances } C^{\mathbf{0}!} X_i}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x := \text{new } C(z_i) \mid \Delta \cup \{x\}, \emptyset} \text{T}_{\text{CREATE}}$$

Statement typing

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash e : T \quad T \sqsubseteq \Gamma x}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x := e \mid \Delta \cup \{x\}, \emptyset} \text{T}_{\text{VARASS}}$$

		$x = e;$	$?^e$	$!$
x	$?$	nullable	✓	✓
	$!$	non-null	✗	✓

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash y : C^{k_1 n_1} \quad t = D n_2 \quad D^{k_2 n_2} \sqsubseteq \Gamma x}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x := (t) y \mid \Delta \cup \{x\}, \emptyset} \text{T}_{\text{CAST}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash s_1 \mid \Delta_1, \Sigma_1 \quad \Gamma, \Delta_1 \vdash s_2 \mid \Delta_2, \Sigma_2}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash s_1; s_2 \mid \Delta_2, \Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2} \text{T}_{\text{SEQ}}$$

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$$\frac{\vartheta \in instances\ S\ (C^{\gamma !} \cdot X_i) \quad \Gamma, \Delta \vdash y : C^{k !} \quad mSig(C, m) = (\gamma, X_i, S, Y_j) \quad \Gamma, \Delta \vdash z_i : T_i \quad T_i \sqsubseteq \vartheta X_i \quad \vartheta S \sqsubseteq \Gamma x \quad k \sqsubseteq \vartheta \gamma}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x := y.m(z_i) \mid \Delta \cup \{x\}, \emptyset} \text{T}_{\text{CALL}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash z_i : T_i \quad T_i \sqsubseteq \vartheta X_i \quad k = (if\ committed^* T_i\ then\ \mathbf{1}\ else\ \mathbf{0}) \quad cSig\ C = (X_i, Y_j) \quad \vartheta \in instances\ C^{\mathbf{0} !} X_i \quad C^{k !} \sqsubseteq \Gamma x}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x := new\ C(z_i) \mid \Delta \cup \{x\}, \emptyset} \text{T}_{\text{CREATE}}$$

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$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash y : C^{k_1 n_1} \quad t = D n_2 \quad D^{k_2 n_2} \sqsubseteq \Gamma x}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x := (t) y \mid \Delta \cup \{x\}, \emptyset} \text{T}_{\text{CAST}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash s_1 \mid \Delta_1, \Sigma_1 \quad \Gamma, \Delta_1 \vdash s_2 \mid \Delta_2, \Sigma_2}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash s_1; s_2 \mid \Delta_2, \Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2} \text{T}_{\text{SEQ}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x : C^{k_1!} \quad f\text{Type}(C, f) = D n \quad \Gamma, \Delta \vdash y : T \quad T \sqsubseteq D^{k_2 n} \quad k_1 = \mathbf{0} \vee k_2 = \mathbf{1} \quad \Sigma = (\text{if } x = \text{this then } \{f\} \text{ else } \emptyset)}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash x.f := y \mid \Delta, \Sigma} \text{T}_{\text{FLDASS}}$$

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	$x.f = y;$	$\mathbf{1}$	y $\mathbf{0}$	\diamond
x	$\mathbf{1}$	✓	✗	✗
	$\mathbf{0}$	✓	✓	✓
	\diamond	✓	✗	✗

Well-formed methods and constructors

 $\vdash_m C, m$

$\vdash_s mBody (C, m)$	w.f. body
$\vdash_{mS} (\gamma, X_i, S, Y_j)$	w.f. signature
$\neg nullable S \longrightarrow res \in \Delta$	init. Result
$\Gamma_0, X_i \cup \{this\} \vdash mBody (C, m) \mid \Delta, \Sigma$	w.t. body

Well-formed methods and constructors

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 $\vdash_C C$

$\vdash_s cBody C$	w.f. body
$\vdash_{cS} (X_i, Y_j)$	w.f. signature
$\{f \in fields C \mid \neg nullable (fType (C, f))\} \subseteq \Sigma$	init. fields
$\Gamma_0, X_i \cup \{this\} \vdash cBody C \mid \Delta, \Sigma$	w.t. body

Well-formed methods and constructors

 $\vdash_m C, m$ $\vdash_s mBody (C, m)$

w.f. body

 $\vdash_{mS} (\gamma, X_i, S, Y_i)$

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 $\neg nullable S \longrightarrow res \in \Delta$

init. Result

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w.t. body

 $\vdash_C C$ $\vdash_s cBody C$

w.f. body

 $\vdash_{cS} (X_i, Y_i)$

w.f. signature

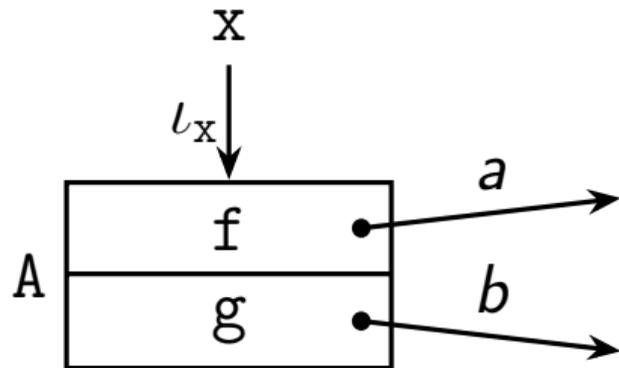
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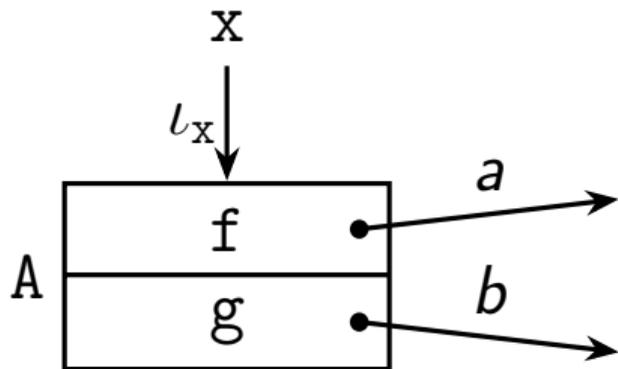
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w.t. body

Heap functions

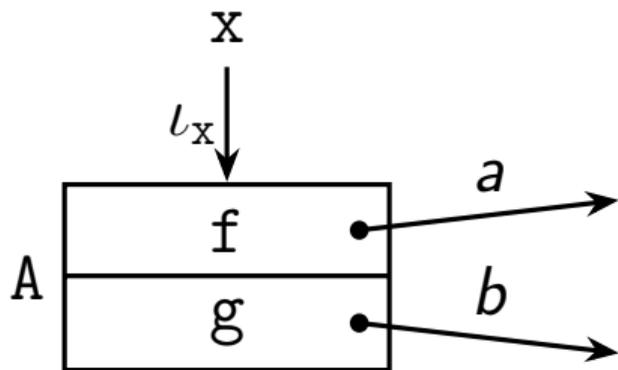


Heap functions



$$h_C : \iota \rightarrow C$$

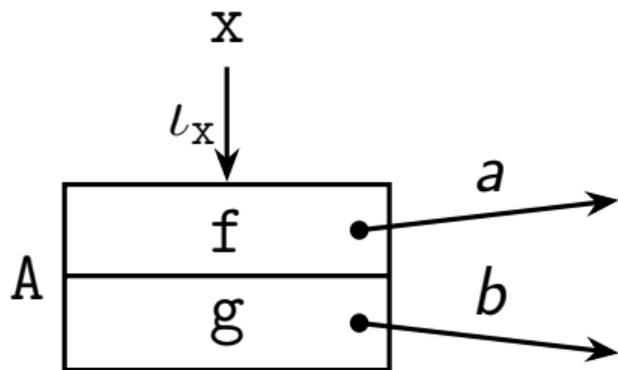
Heap functions



$$h_C : \iota \rightarrow C$$

$$h_V : (\iota, f) \rightarrow \iota$$

Heap functions

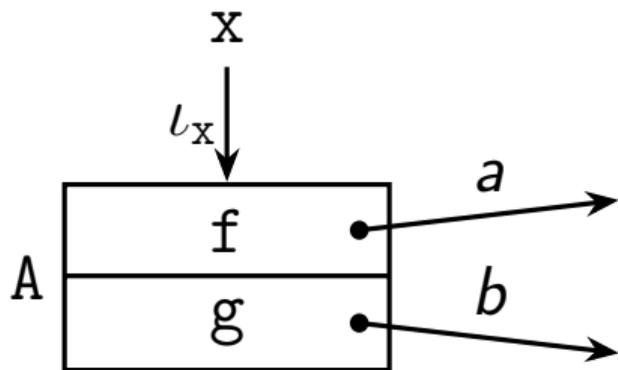


$$h_C : \iota \rightarrow C$$

$$h_V : (\iota, f) \rightarrow \iota$$

$$h \equiv (h_C, h_V)$$

Heap functions



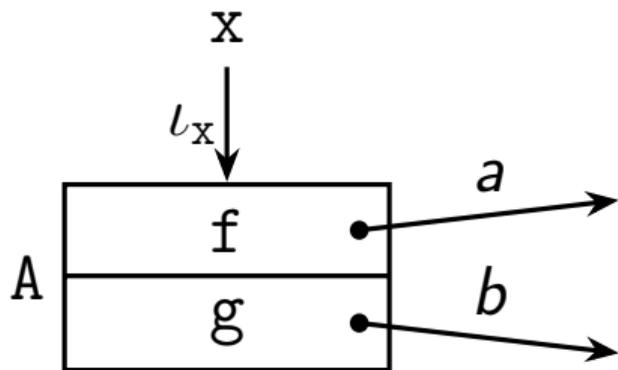
$$h_c : \iota \rightarrow C$$

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$$h \equiv (h_c, h_v)$$

$$h_c \ l_x = A$$

Heap functions



$$h_C : \iota \rightarrow C$$

$$h_V : (\iota, f) \rightarrow \iota$$

$$h \equiv (h_C, h_V)$$

$$h_C \iota_x = A$$

$$h_V (\iota_x, \mathbf{f}) = a$$

$$h_V (\iota_x, \mathbf{g}) = b$$

Memory allocation

$$\text{alloc } h \ C = (h', \iota)$$

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$$h'_c = h_c (\iota \mapsto C)$$

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Lemma XYZ. *Proof.* . . .

Memory allocation

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Isabelle/HOL automation

Lemma XYZ. *Proof.* . . .

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Isabelle/HOL automation

Lemma XYZ. *Proof.* . . . using *alloc*. \square

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Isabelle/HOL automation

Lemma XYZ. *Proof.* . . . using `alloc.` \square

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finite M

A. Summers, P. Müller.

Freedom Before Commitment

Isabelle/HOL automation

Lemma XYZ. *Proof.* . . . using *alloc.* \square

Memory allocation

$$\forall M. \forall \iota \in M.$$

$$\text{alloc } h \ C = (h', \iota)$$

$$\iota \notin \text{dom } h_c$$

$$h'_c = h_c (\iota \mapsto C)$$

$$h'_v = h_v ((\iota, \text{fields } C) \mapsto \text{null})$$

Solutions:

- Out-of-memory exception
- Infinite memory

Lemma XYZ. *Proof.* . . .

Memory allocation

$$\text{alloc } h \ C = (h', \iota)$$

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unbounded h

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unbounded h

Lemma XYZ. *Proof.* . . . using something else. \square

Memory allocation

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unbounded h

$$E^2F^2D^2$$

Easy

Explanation

Follows

From

Difficult

Discovery

Lemma XYZ. *Proof.* . . . using something else. \square

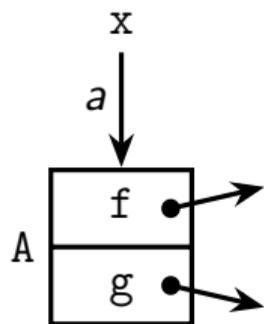
Object structure

$$\text{dom } h_c = \{\iota \mid \exists f. (\iota, f) \in \text{dom } h_v\} \quad (1)$$

A. Summers, P. Müller.
Freedom Before Commitment

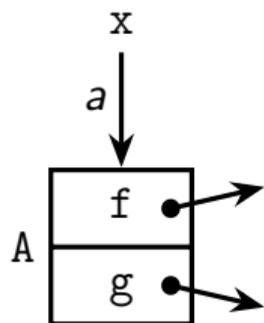
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Object structure

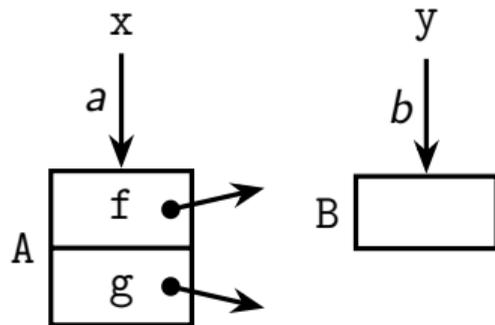
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ι	$h_c \iota$	$\frac{\text{fields}}{h_c \iota \quad h_v \iota}$	(1)
x	a	A	$f, g \quad f, g \quad \checkmark$

Object structure

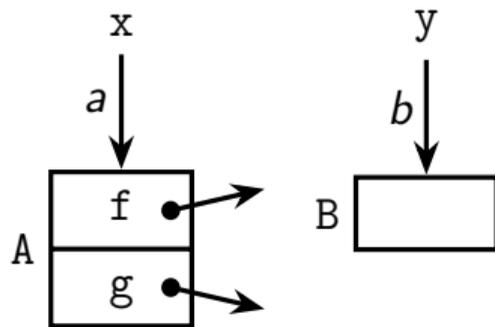
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ι	$h_c \iota$	$\frac{\text{fields}}{h_c \iota \quad h_v \iota}$	(1)
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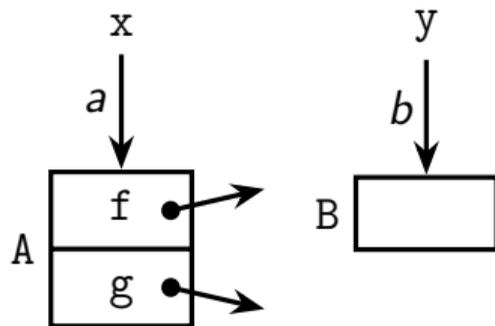


ι	$h_c \iota$	$\frac{\text{fields}}{h_c \iota \quad h_v \iota}$	(1)		
x	a	A	f, g	f, g	✓
y	b	B	∅	∅	✗

Object structure

$$\text{dom } h_c = \{\iota \mid \exists f. (\iota, f) \in \text{dom } h_v\} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{dom } h_c = \{ & \iota \mid \exists f. (\iota, f) \in \text{dom } h_v\} \\ & \cup \{\iota \mid \exists C. h_c \iota = C \wedge \text{fields } C = []\} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

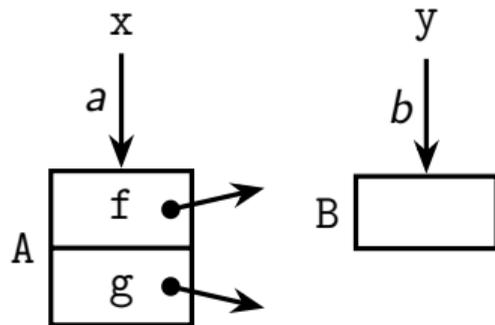


ι	$h_c \iota$	$\frac{\text{fields}}{h_c \iota \quad h_v \iota}$	(1)
x	a	A	f, g f, g ✓
y	b	B	∅ ∅ ✗

Object structure

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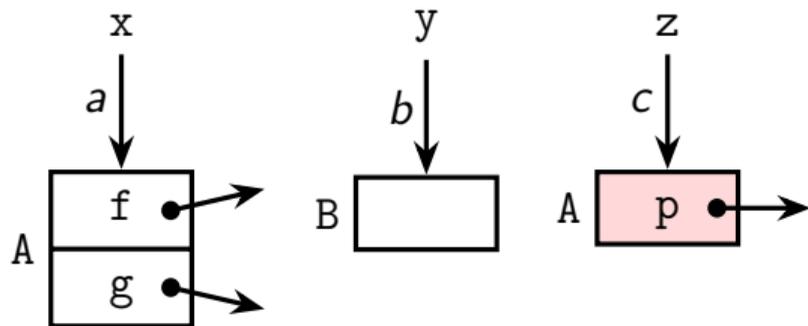


	ι	$h_c \iota$	<i>fields</i>		(1)	(2)
			$h_c \iota$	$h_v \iota$		
x	a	A	f, g	f, g	✓	✓
y	b	B	∅	∅	✗	✓

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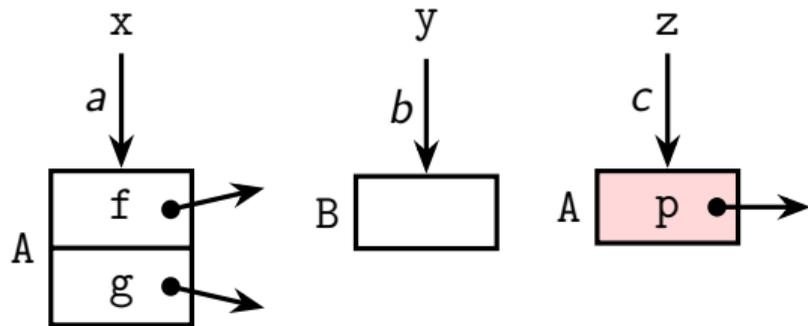


	ι	$h_c \iota$	fields		(1)	(2)
			$h_c \iota$	$h_v \iota$		
x	a	A	f, g	f, g	✓	✓
y	b	B	\emptyset	\emptyset	✗	✓

Object structure

$$\text{dom } h_c = \{\iota \mid \exists f. (\iota, f) \in \text{dom } h_v\} \quad (1)$$

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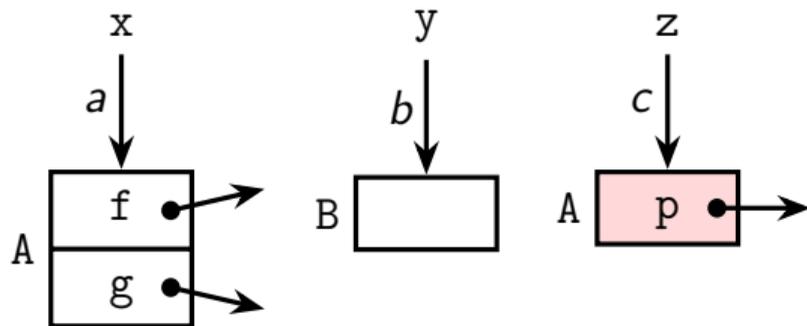
	ι	$h_c \iota$	<i>fields</i>		(1)	(2)
			$h_c \iota$	$h_v \iota$		
x	a	A	f, g	f, g	✓	✓
y	b	B	\emptyset	\emptyset	✗	✓
z	c	A	f, g	p	✗	✗

Object structure

$$\text{dom } h_c = \{\iota \mid \exists f. (\iota, f) \in \text{dom } h_v\} \quad (1)$$

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$$\text{dom } h_v = \{(\iota, f) \mid \iota \in \text{dom } h_c \wedge f \in \text{fields } (h_c \iota)\} \quad (3)$$



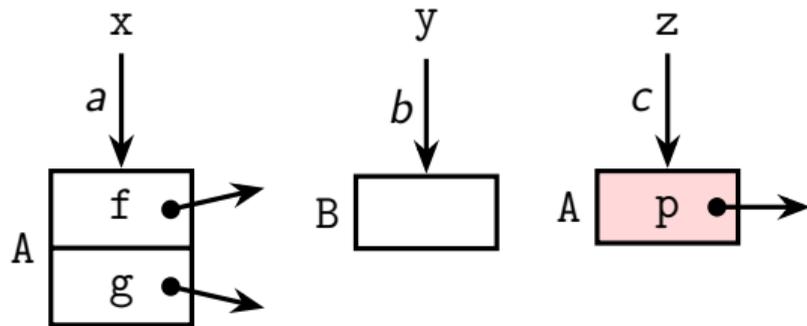
	ι	$h_c \iota$	fields		(1)	(2)
			$h_c \iota$	$h_v \iota$		
x	a	A	f, g	f, g	✓	✓
y	b	B	\emptyset	\emptyset	✗	✓
z	c	A	f, g	p	✗	✗

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	ι	$h_c \iota$	fields		(1)	(2)	(3)
			$h_c \iota$	$h_v \iota$			
x	a	A	f, g	f, g	✓	✓	✓
y	b	B	\emptyset	\emptyset	✗	✓	✓
z	c	A	f, g	p	✗	✗	✓

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$$\text{dom } h_c = \{\iota \mid \exists f. (\iota, f) \in \text{dom } h_v\} \quad (1)$$

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$$\vdash_{\text{dom}}^0 h \equiv (2) \quad \text{weak}$$

Object structure

$$\text{dom } h_c = \{\iota \mid \exists f. (\iota, f) \in \text{dom } h_v\} \quad (1)$$

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$$\text{dom } h_v = \{(\iota, f) \mid \iota \in \text{dom } h_c \wedge f \in \text{fields } (h_c \iota)\} \quad (3)$$

$$\vdash_{\text{dom}}^0 h \equiv (2) \quad \text{weak}$$

$$\vdash_{\text{dom}} h \equiv (3) \quad \text{strong}$$

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$$\vdash_{\text{dom}}^0 h \equiv (2) \quad \text{weak}$$

$$\vdash_{\text{dom}} h \equiv (3) \quad \text{strong}$$

$$\vdash_{\text{dom}} h \implies \vdash_{\text{dom}}^0 h$$

Object structure

$$\text{dom } h_c = \{\iota \mid \exists f. (\iota, f) \in \text{dom } h_v\} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{dom } h_c = \{ & \iota \mid \exists f. (\iota, f) \in \text{dom } h_v\} \\ & \cup \{\iota \mid \exists C. h_c \iota = C \wedge \text{fields } C = []\} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{dom } h_v = \{(\iota, f) \mid \iota \in \text{dom } h_c \wedge f \in \text{fields } (h_c \iota)\} \quad (3)$$

$$\vdash_{\text{dom}}^0 h \equiv (2) \quad \text{weak}$$

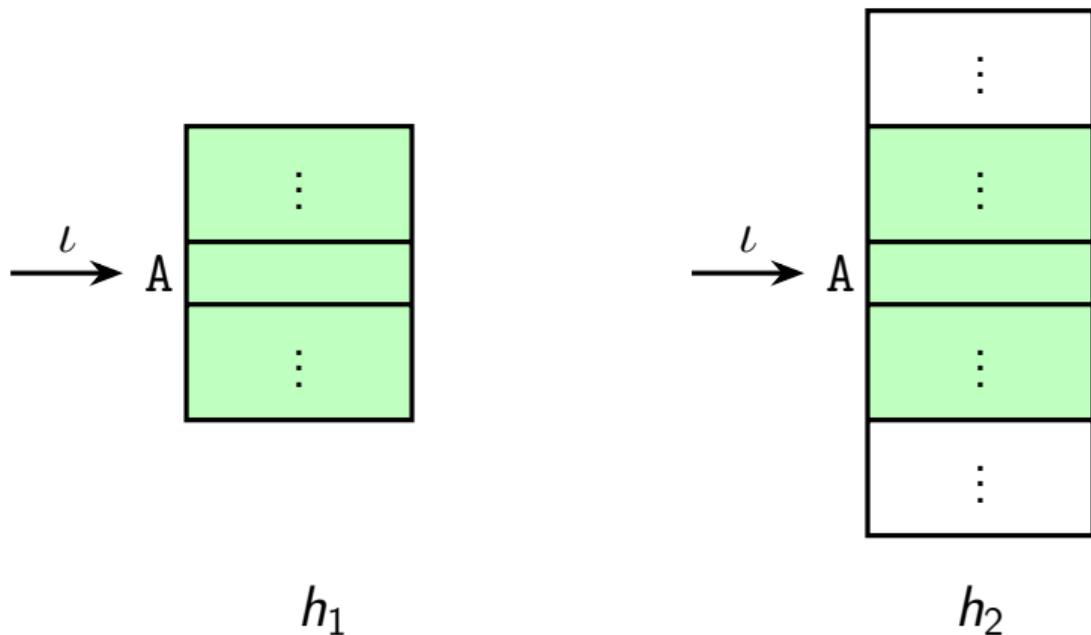
$$\vdash_{\text{dom}} h \equiv (3) \quad \text{strong}$$

$$\vdash_{\text{dom}} h \implies \vdash_{\text{dom}}^0 h$$

$$\vdash_{\text{im}} h \equiv h_v \quad \text{' } \text{dom } h_v \subseteq \{\text{null}\} \cup \{\iota \mid \iota \in \text{dom } h_c\}$$

Heap ordering

$$h_1 \leq h_2 \equiv \text{dom } h_{1c} \subseteq \text{dom } h_{2c} \wedge (\forall \iota \in \text{dom } h_{1c}. h_{2c} \iota = h_{1c} \iota)$$



Expression value

$$\llbracket x \rrbracket_{h,\sigma} = \sigma x$$

$$\llbracket \text{null} \rrbracket_{h,\sigma} = \text{null}$$

$$\llbracket x . f \rrbracket_{h,\sigma} = \begin{cases} h_v(\sigma x, f) & \text{if } \sigma x \neq \text{null} \\ \text{derefExc} & \text{if } \sigma x = \text{null} \end{cases}$$

Exception state ε :

ok

castExc

derefExc

Objects

Statement

$\varepsilon, h, \sigma, s \rightsquigarrow h', \sigma', \varepsilon'$

Exception state

Variables

Operational semantics

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{[e]_{h,\sigma} = v}{\text{ok}, h, \sigma, x := e \rightsquigarrow h, \sigma(x \mapsto v), \text{ok}} \text{VARASS} \qquad \frac{[e]_{h,\sigma} = \text{derefExc}}{\text{ok}, h, \sigma, x := e \rightsquigarrow h, \sigma, \text{derefExc}} \text{VARASSBAD} \\
\\
\frac{\sigma x = \iota}{\text{ok}, h, \sigma, x.f := y \rightsquigarrow (h_v((\iota, f) \mapsto \sigma y), h_c), \sigma, \text{ok}} \text{FLDASS} \qquad \frac{\sigma x = \text{null}}{\text{ok}, h, \sigma, x.f := y \rightsquigarrow h, \sigma, \text{derefExc}} \text{FLDASSBAD} \\
\\
\frac{\sigma y = \text{null}}{\text{ok}, h, \sigma, x := y.m(z_i) \rightsquigarrow h, \sigma, \text{derefExc}} \text{CALLBAD} \\
\\
\frac{\sigma_1 = [\text{this} \mapsto \iota, X_i \mapsto \sigma z_i, \text{res} \mapsto \text{null}, Y_j \mapsto \text{null}] \quad h_c \iota = C \quad m\text{Sig}(C, m) = (\gamma, X_i, S, Y_j) \quad m\text{Body}(C, m) = s \quad \text{ok}, h, \sigma_1, s \rightsquigarrow h', \sigma', \varepsilon}{\text{ok}, h, \sigma, x := y.m(z_i) \rightsquigarrow h', \sigma(x \mapsto \sigma' \text{res}), \varepsilon} \text{CALL} \\
\\
\frac{\sigma_1 = [\text{this} \mapsto \iota_1, X_i \mapsto \sigma z_i, Y_j \mapsto \text{null}] \quad c\text{Sig } C = (X_i, Y_j) \quad \text{alloc } h \ C = (h_1, \iota_1) \quad c\text{Body } C = s \quad \text{ok}, h_1, \sigma_1, s \rightsquigarrow h', \sigma_2, \varepsilon}{\text{ok}, h, \sigma, x := \text{new } C(z_i) \rightsquigarrow h', \sigma(x \mapsto \iota_1), \varepsilon} \text{CREATE} \\
\\
\frac{h \vdash \sigma y : t}{\text{ok}, h, \sigma, x := (t) y \rightsquigarrow h, \sigma(x \mapsto \sigma y), \text{ok}} \text{CAST} \qquad \frac{\neg h \vdash \sigma y : t}{\text{ok}, h, \sigma, x := (t) y \rightsquigarrow h, \sigma, \text{castExc}} \text{CASTBAD} \\
\\
\frac{\text{ok}, h, \sigma, s_1 \rightsquigarrow h_1, \sigma_1, \text{ok} \quad \text{ok}, h_1, \sigma_1, s_2 \rightsquigarrow h_2, \sigma_2, \varepsilon}{\text{ok}, h, \sigma, s_1; s_2 \rightsquigarrow h_2, \sigma_2, \varepsilon} \text{SEQ} \qquad \frac{\text{ok}, h, \sigma, s_1 \rightsquigarrow h_1, \sigma_1, \varepsilon \quad \varepsilon \neq \text{ok}}{\text{ok}, h, \sigma, s_1; s_2 \rightsquigarrow h_1, \sigma_1, \varepsilon} \text{SEQBAD}
\end{array}$$

$$\text{reaches}_1 h_v \equiv \lambda \iota_1 \iota_2. \exists f. h_v (\iota_1, f) = \iota_2$$

$$\text{reaches}_1 h_v \equiv \lambda \iota_1 \iota_2. \exists f. h_v (\iota_1, f) = \iota_2$$

$$\text{reaches } h_v \equiv (\text{reaches}_1 h_v)^{**}$$

$$\text{reaches}_1 h_v \equiv \lambda \iota_1 \iota_2. \exists f. h_v (\iota_1, f) = \iota_2$$

$$\text{reaches } h_v \equiv (\text{reaches}_1 h_v)^{**}$$

$$\text{reaches } h_v V v \equiv \exists v' \in V. \text{reaches } h_v v' v$$

$$\text{reaches } h_v v V \equiv \exists v' \in V. \text{reaches } h_v v v'$$

init h l $\equiv \forall f \in \text{fields } (h_c \ l).$

$\neg \text{nullable } (fType \ (h_c \ l, \ f)) \longrightarrow h_v \ (l, \ f) \neq \text{null}$

$init\ h\ \iota \equiv \forall f \in fields\ (h_c\ \iota).$

$\neg nullable\ (fType\ (h_c\ \iota,\ f)) \longrightarrow h_v\ (\iota,\ f) \neq null$

$deep_init\ h\ \iota \equiv \forall \iota'.\ reaches\ h_v\ \iota\ \iota' \longrightarrow init\ h\ \iota'$

Run-time configuration

 $\Gamma, \Delta \vdash h, \sigma$

Types

Assigned

Heap

Evaluation

Run-time configuration

$$\Gamma, \Delta \vdash h, \sigma \equiv$$

$$\text{dom } \sigma = \text{dom } \Gamma \wedge \text{this} \in \text{dom } \sigma$$

$$\wedge \forall \iota \in \text{dom } h_c. \forall f \in \text{fields } (h_c \iota). h_v (\iota, f) \neq \text{null} \longrightarrow$$

$$h_v (\iota, f) \in \text{dom } h_c \wedge h_c (h_v (\iota, f)) \sqsubseteq \text{fType } (h_c \iota, f)$$

$$\wedge \forall x \in \text{dom } \sigma. \neg \text{nullable } (\Gamma x) \wedge x \in \Delta \longrightarrow \sigma x \neq \text{null}$$

$$\wedge \forall x \in \text{dom } \sigma. \sigma x \neq \text{null} \longrightarrow \sigma x \in \text{dom } h_c \wedge h \vdash \sigma x : \Gamma x$$

$$\wedge \forall x \in \text{dom } \sigma. \forall y \in \text{dom } \sigma. \text{committed } (\Gamma x) \longrightarrow$$

$$\text{deep_init}_v h (\sigma x) \wedge (\text{free } (\Gamma y) \longrightarrow \neg \text{reaches } h_v$$

$$(\sigma x) (\sigma y))$$

$$\wedge \neg \text{nullable } (\Gamma \text{this}) \wedge \text{this} \in \Delta$$

$$\wedge \vdash_{\text{dom}} h$$

$$\wedge \vdash_{\text{im}} h$$

Run-time configuration

$$\Gamma, \Delta \vdash h, \sigma \equiv$$

$$\text{dom } \sigma = \text{dom } \Gamma \wedge \text{this} \in \text{dom } \sigma$$

$$\wedge \forall \iota \in \text{dom } h_c. \forall f \in \text{fields } (h_c \iota). h_v (\iota, f) \neq \text{null} \longrightarrow$$

$$h_v (\iota, f) \in \text{dom } h_c \wedge h_c (h_v (\iota, f)) \sqsubseteq \text{fType } (h_c \iota, f)$$

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$$\wedge \forall x \in \text{dom } \sigma. \forall y \in \text{dom } \sigma. \text{committed } (\Gamma x) \longrightarrow$$

$$\text{deep_init}_v h (\sigma x) \wedge (\text{free } (\Gamma y)) \longrightarrow \neg \text{reaches } h_v$$

$$(\sigma x) (\sigma y))$$

$$\wedge \neg \text{nullable } (\Gamma \text{this}) \wedge \text{this} \in \Delta$$

$$\wedge \vdash_{\text{dom}} h$$

$$\wedge \vdash_{\text{im}} h$$

Run-time configuration

$$\Gamma, \Delta \vdash h, \sigma \equiv$$

$$\text{dom } \sigma = \text{dom } \Gamma \wedge \text{this} \in \text{dom } \sigma$$

$$\wedge \forall \iota \in \text{dom } h_c. \forall f \in \text{fields } (h_c \iota). h_v (\iota, f) \neq \text{null} \longrightarrow$$

$$h_v (\iota, f) \in \text{dom } h_c \wedge h_c (h_v (\iota, f)) \sqsubseteq \text{fType } (h_c \iota, f)$$

$$\wedge \forall x \in \text{dom } \sigma. \neg \text{nullable } (\Gamma x) \wedge x \in \Delta \longrightarrow \sigma x \neq \text{null}$$

$$\wedge \forall x \in \text{dom } \sigma. \sigma x \neq \text{null} \longrightarrow \sigma x \in \text{dom } h_c \wedge h \vdash \sigma x : \Gamma x$$

$$\wedge \forall x \in \text{dom } \sigma. \forall y \in \text{dom } \sigma. \text{committed } (\Gamma x) \longrightarrow$$

$$\text{deep_init}_v h (\sigma x) \wedge (\text{free } (\Gamma y)) \longrightarrow \neg \text{reaches } h_v$$

$$(\sigma x) (\sigma y)$$

$$\wedge \neg \text{nullable } (\Gamma \text{this}) \wedge \text{this} \in \Delta$$

$$\wedge \vdash_{\text{dom}} h$$

$$\wedge \vdash_{\text{im}} h$$
E²F²D²

Safety and preservation

Theorem. If all the following is true

$$\Gamma, \Delta \vdash h, \sigma$$

$$\Gamma, \Delta \vdash s \mid \Delta', \Sigma$$

$$\text{ok}, h, \sigma, s \rightsquigarrow h', \sigma', \varepsilon$$

$$\varepsilon \neq \text{castExc}$$

$$\vdash_s s$$

unbounded h

then program s finishes in good configuration $\Gamma, \Delta' \vdash h', \sigma'$ and does not dereference a null pointer: $\varepsilon = \text{ok}$.

Version	Ind. goals	Instructions		Min. cases
		“good”	“bad”	
Original	14	6	5	89
Verified	20			125

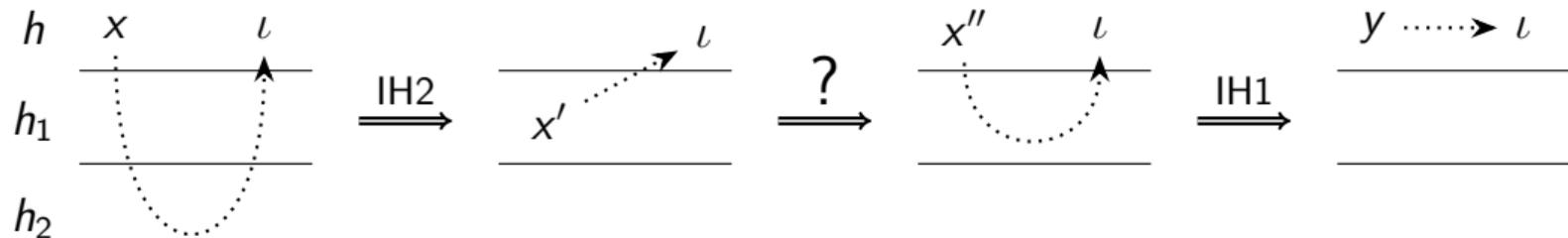
Reachability goal

$$\forall \iota \in \text{dom } h'_c. \forall x \in \text{dom } \sigma'. \text{reaches } h'_v (\sigma' x) \iota \wedge \text{committed } (\Gamma x) \wedge$$

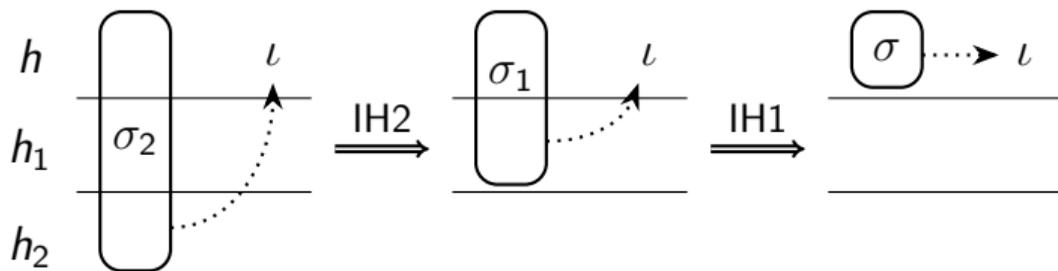
$$\iota \in \text{dom } h_c \wedge \sigma' x \in \text{dom } h_c \longrightarrow (\exists y \in \text{dom } \sigma. \text{committed } (\Gamma y)$$

$$\wedge \text{reaches } h_v (\sigma y) \iota)$$

$s_1; s_2$



Reachability goal

$$\forall \iota \in \text{dom } h_c. \text{ reaches } h'_v (\sigma' \setminus \{x \in \text{dom } \sigma' \mid \text{committed } (\Gamma x)\}) \iota \longrightarrow \text{reaches } h_v (\sigma \setminus \{x \in \text{dom } \sigma \mid \text{committed } (\Gamma x)\}) \iota$$
 $s_1; s_2$


Publication	Proof size	Correct?
OOPSLA'11	0	N/A
ETH TR'10	\approx 20 pages	No
this	\approx 200 pages	Isabelle/HOL

expr.method (args);

~~*tmp* = **expr**;~~

~~if (*tmp* == null)~~

~~*throw new NullPointerException ();*~~

~~else~~

~~***tmp*.method(args);**~~

